

# DAREDEVIL

## "Fall from Grace" chapter 1

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COMICS


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MCDANIEL






ON JUNE 13, 1963, 22 GLASS GLOBES CONTAINING AN UNIDENTIFIED GAS WERE BROKEN OPEN ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE NEW YORK CITY SUBWAY SYSTEM.




THE TWENTY-THIRD DID NOT BREAK...

... AND IT WAS NEVER RECOVERED.



22 MEN AND WOMEN LEFT SHATTERED GLASS BELOW, ON THEIR RETURN TO WHAT THEY'D LEFT BEHIND IN WASHINGTON--

--LIVES THAT COULD BE TRACED BACK TO PAYCHECKS CUT AT THE PENTAGON.



BETTER FOR MISSION SECURITY TO REPLACE PROPER NAMES WITH TRAIN LINES.



NOOOO!

SKREEEE

AND EASIER FOR GENERAL HARRY "TNT" KENKOY TO REMOVE LOOSE ENDS IF THEY WERE ALREADY LACKING IN HUMAN IDENTITY.



THEN IT WAS ONLY PUTTING  
THE BRAKES TO THE  
FLUSHING EXPRESS.



SENDING THE 8TH AVENUE  
LOCAL OFF THE TRACKS.



BRINGING THE BROOKLYN-  
QUEENS CROSSTOWN TO  
A DEAD STOP.



EDDIE PASSIM FEARED BEING  
DERAILED, BUT ALL HE COULD  
THINK OF WAS THE THING HE'D  
LET HAPPEN TO THERESA  
BELLWETHER.

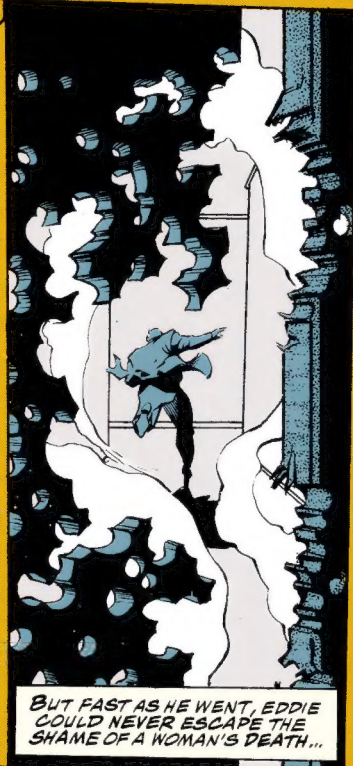
A TELEPATH, EDDIE WAS  
MORE USED TO OTHERS'  
THOUGHTS THAN HIS OWN...



...THOUGHTS LIKE THOSE  
LURKING ON THE FAR SIDE  
OF THE HOTEL ROOM DOOR.



EDDIE STARTED RUNNING,  
THEN, AND WOULDN'T  
STOP FOR 20 YEARS.



BUT FAST AS HE WENT, EDDIE  
COULD NEVER ESCAPE THE  
SHAME OF A WOMAN'S DEATH...

...OR THE DARK SECRET OF  
WHAT WAITED INSIDE THE  
GLOBE THAT DIDN'T BREAK...



THE BIG APPLE, JUST SHY  
OF THE HUDSON RIVER.

TWO DECADES LATER, AND  
ONE MORE STEP CLOSER  
TO THE ABYSS.

Hades is New York City with all the  
escape hatches sealed.

--James R. Frakes  
New York Times, paraphrased

FALL FROM  
GRACE  
PART I.

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I'VE HAD ABOUT ENOUGH OF YOU, CRIPPLER!

NEVER ENOUGH OF A GOOD THING, DARE-DEVIL--

KEEP YOUR TWISTED SENSE OF GRATITUDE, CRIPPLER--

--HRRGK--

KTROOM!

--OR A BAD ONE, heh-heh!

--URRK--

SHRIP

THAT HURT-- THANKS!

LEMME RETURN THE FAVOR!

FWAAK

--THE LAST THING I WANT TO BE IS ON WHAT PASSES FOR YOUR GOOD SIDE!

SHOW-OFF. ACROBATICS MAY SAVE YOUR TAIL, DD, BUT THEY WON'T DO JACK FOR THAT BUM PASSIM!

TKRAM!



DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOU WANT  
HIM FOR--DON'T  
CARE!--

--BUT  
SILVER SABLE  
INTERNATIONAL'S  
GOT A CASH  
CONTRACT TO BRING IN  
THAT DRIFTER, MAKIN'  
EDDIE-BOY OURS  
ALONE!

THE MERCENARY'S  
SADO-MASOCHISM  
WILL DRAG THE FIGHT  
OUT AS LONG AND  
HARD AS IT CAN GET.

TO THE HERO, THAT'S  
TIME BETTER SPENT  
PROTECTING ANOTHER  
STREET PERSON FROM  
EDDIE'S MENTALLY  
IMPLANTED SUGGESTIONS  
THAT THEY COULD RE-  
MAKE THEMSELVES  
PHYSICALLY... COMPLETELY.  
IT IS INFECTIOUS  
MADNESS.

THERE'S  
MY BABY!

SWEET THING'S  
WARM FOR YOUR FORM,  
RED-MAN! IT WON'T  
HURT--MUCH--AND  
EVEN SO, I THINK  
YOU'RE GONNA  
LIKE IT!

NICE PIECE'A  
WOOD.

THE CONFLICT BEGAN  
27 MINUTES BACK AND  
FOUR BLOCKS EAST--

--DAREDEVIL'S INQUIRIES  
AMONG THE HOMELESS  
CONCERNING EDDIE PASSIM  
COLLIDING WITH CRIPPLER'S  
TORTURES OF THE SAME.

HYPER-KEEN SENSE  
OF SMELL KEYS ON  
ACRID, LEAKING FUEL,  
RADAR ECHOING BACK  
THE WEAPON'S FORM.

TACTILE FEELING  
SEARCHES THE DEBRIS  
FOR A ROUGH-EDGED  
TRIGGER.

I MEAN,  
YOU'RE ALREADY  
DRESSED FOR THE  
INFERNO--

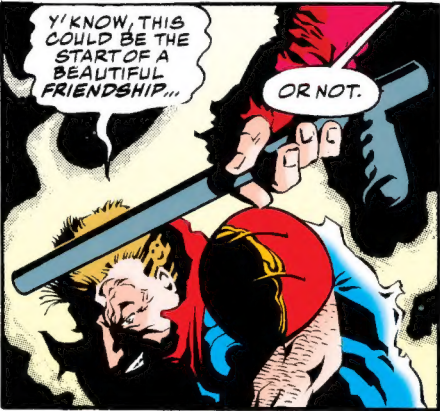
--HUH?

SKZZAAT

HORNHEADED  
S.O.B. RIGGED--

FWRAKOOOM!







A TEMPLE OF  
THE BEAST.

WITH THE DARK  
PRIESTHOOD THAT  
IS THE SNAKEROOT.

ALL  
GLORY TO OUR  
MASTER WHO IS  
THE BEAST!

TAKE PRIDE  
IN THE PRIVILEGE YOU  
ENJOY TO SERVE AS  
HIS HAND!

BUT OUR  
MASTER CRAVES  
MORE THAN YOUR SKILLS  
AS WARRIORS TONIGHT,  
NINJA!

WHO  
AMONG YOU  
WILL ATTEND  
HIS NEED?









THE BEAST TRAMPLES THE SAVAGE PRIDE AT THE CORE OF THE SNAKEROOT DAITO COMMANDS.

THE NINJA'S SWORD SLASHES, RECKLESS WITH FRUSTRATION.

KRTAAM!

HE CURSES HIS SHADOWY MASTER'S SEVERE DECREE.

AND NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME, DAITO CURSES HIMSELF FOR GIVING IN WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A WORD.



I'M THE PRESIDENT--

--AND I'VE GOT THE BUTTON.

PUSH COMES TO SHOVE, I BLOW THE PLANET TO KINGDOM COME.

HEY, THERE'S NO GOING TOO FAR DEFENDING THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE.

COURSE, IT'D BE ONE MOTHER OF A SHOVE FOR ME TO BLOW THIS SWEET DEAL-- COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BEATS S.H.I.E.L.D. CYBORG ANY DAY.

NOW MY JOB BENEFITS ARE SHACKING UP WITH MARILYN LOOKALIKES AND \$200 HAIRCUTS ON AIRPORT RUNWAYS.

USED TO BE THE PERKS WERE STALE KEY LIME PIE AT THE S.H.I.E.L.D. COMMISSARY, BODY-BAGGING KUNG-FU KILLERS OF THE HAND--

--AND PRESSING FLESH WITH A SWEET-BODY CHOP-SOCKEY WITCH NAMED ELEKTRA.

BILL OHMIGOD-- BILL!

I'm-- I'm the president--

--HELICARRIER, FRANK, SIGNAL THE HELICARRIER LET 'EM KNOW WE'RE--

--HRAAK--

MY HORMONES HAVE KEPT HER IN MY THOUGHTS--

--HELPED OUT BY SOME NINJA "MIND MELD" WE HAD GOING.

I KEPT A WASHCLOTH, TOO, ONE SHE USED SHOWERING AT THE POTOMAC MOTOR INN. BUT THAT'S ANOTHER--

--WHO PLANTED THAT IN THE ROSE GARDEN?

REQUEST DENIED.

ELEKTRA TRUSTED YOU WITH A GIFT, JOHN GARRETT, MORE PRECIOUS THAN YOU KNEW.

MORE TERRIBLE THAN SHE COULD HAVE EVER FEARED.

SKLOOSH

I'm... the president...

ANYONE CAN GROW TO BE PRESIDENT, CHILD. BUT ONLY WITH THE PROPER UP-BRINGING.

LET TEKAGI OF THE SNAKEROOT BE YOUR NEW FATHER, JOHN. MY TOUCH WILL GUIDE YOU GENTLY.

MY HAND WILL TEACH YOU DISCIPLINE...

--I've got-- I've got the--

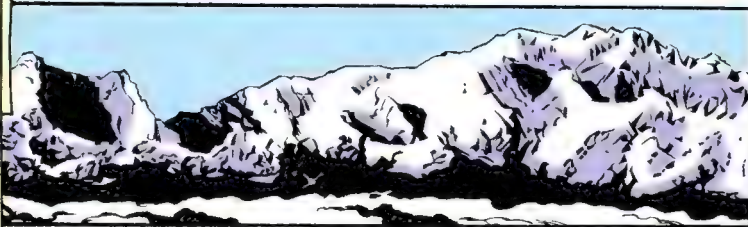
HELICARRIER CONTROL, THIS IS SHIELD SUBSTATION 14! WE ARE UNDER ATTACK! REPEAT, UNDER ATTACK! REQUESTING--

SKRZAAAT



AT THE TOP OF  
THE WORLD  
IS A PLACE  
FOR THOSE  
SEEKING MORE  
THAN ORDINARY  
LIFE HAS TO  
OFFER.

AND TO OFFER  
THEMSELVES  
IN SERVICE TO  
THOSE DOWN  
BELOW.



FEW CHOOSE  
TO CLIMB THE  
WALL THEY  
FIND THERE.

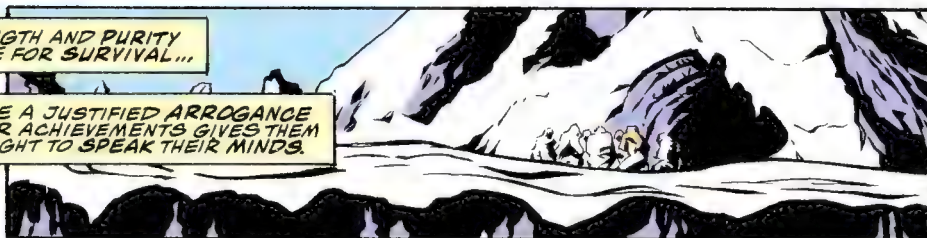


FEWER STILL ARE  
WORTHY ENOUGH TO  
REACH THE SUMMIT.



STRENGTH AND PURITY  
MAKE FOR SURVIVAL...

... WHILE A JUSTIFIED ARROGANCE  
IN THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS GIVES THEM  
THE RIGHT TO SPEAK THEIR MINDS.



OFTEN LITERALLY.

THE CHASTE  
CANNOT ALLOW OUR  
SHADOW WARRIOR  
TEACHINGS TO BECOME  
INSTRUMENTS OF  
EVIL!

YOU SPEAK AS  
IF ELEKTRA DID THIS  
THING INTENTIONALLY,  
FLAME!



NO, STONE, ONLY  
FOOLISHLY! LEAVING  
PART OF HER ESSENCE  
BEHIND...



...THE HAND  
EVEN NOW MOVES  
TO TAKE HOLD, AND  
PUT THAT ESSENCE  
IN SERVICE TO  
THEIR BEAST!



THAT ELEKTRA--  
THE ASSASSIN--  
SHE IS NO MORE,  
WIPED CLEAN.

WHAT PURPOSE IS  
THERE IN ASSIGNING  
BLAME?

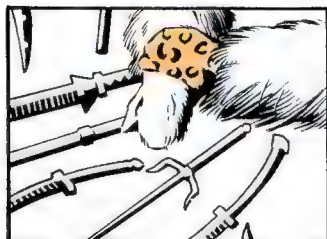
NONE.



THE ONLY PURPOSE  
WE CONCERN OURSELVES  
WITH NOW IS PREVENTING  
HER DEADLY SKILLS FROM  
COMING TO LIFE WITHIN  
THE HAND.

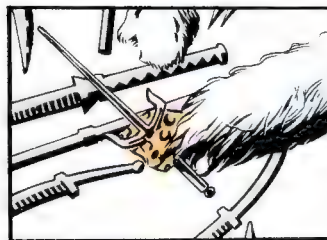


YOU LEAD  
THE CHASTE, STONE.  
WHAT DO YOU  
INTEND?



NO. THIS  
IS NOT FOR  
YOU.

THIS IS  
MY BURDEN, MY  
RESPONSIBILITY.



AND MY  
CHOICE HOW  
BEST TO STRIKE  
THE KILLING  
BLOW...



SYMKARIAN EMBASSY.

EMBASSY ROW, NEW  
YORK CITY, NY.

I'M  
ANXIOUS  
TO FIND  
EDDIE,  
SILVER.

"MS.  
SABLE."

EXCUSE ME?

YOU CAN  
CALL ME  
"MS. SABLE,"  
GENERAL  
KENKOY.

I SEE.

EDDIE-- MY  
COUSIN-- HE'S VERY  
IMPORTANT TO ME...  
I WORRY ABOUT HIM  
OUT THERE ON  
THE STREET.

I NEED  
YOU TO FIND  
HIM FOR ME  
AS SOON AS  
POSSIBLE!

THAT'S WHAT'S  
COVERED ON YOUR  
BILL-- THE ONE WITH  
ALL THE ZEROS  
FOLLOWING THE  
NUMBER FIVE.

THAT'S WHY  
I'VE GOT ONE OF  
THE TOP MEN IN MY  
WILD PACK ON  
THE JOB.

SOUNDS  
LIKE YOUR  
BOSS PUTS  
A LOT OF  
FAITH  
IN YOU, CRIPPLER.

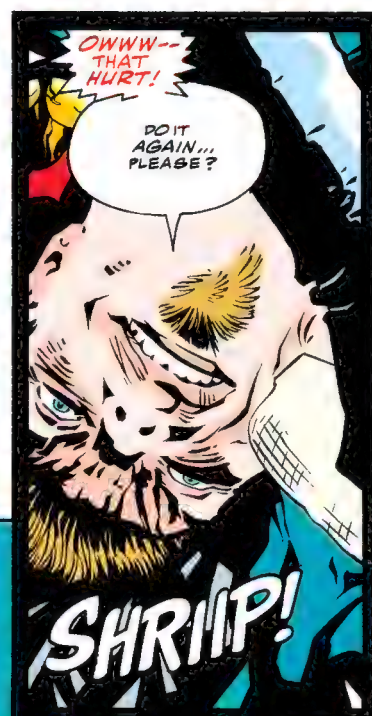
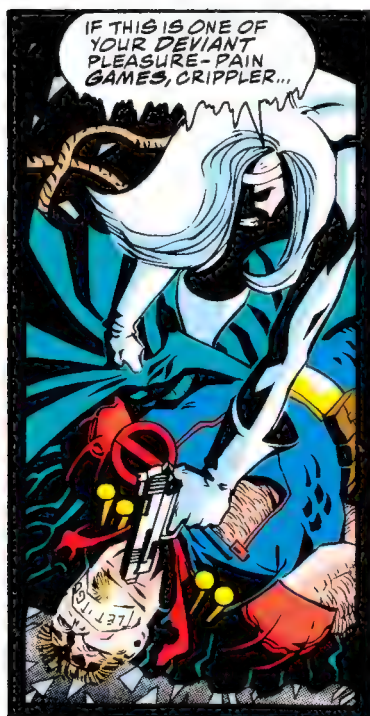
MMRMFF

I CAN'T  
STRESS HOW  
IMPORTANT--

GOOD  
SPEAKING  
WITH YOU,  
GENERAL.

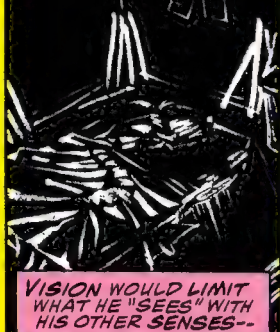
GIVE HER MY BEST...







HE WATCHES HER,  
BUT NOT WITH EYES.



VISION WOULD LIMIT  
WHAT HE "SEES" WITH  
HIS OTHER SENSES--

--THE SOFT RHYTHM  
OF BREATH, THE  
SWEET PERFUME  
OF HER SCENT.

HE WANTS TO FEEL THE  
WARMTH OF HER SKIN  
BENEATH HIS CARESS...

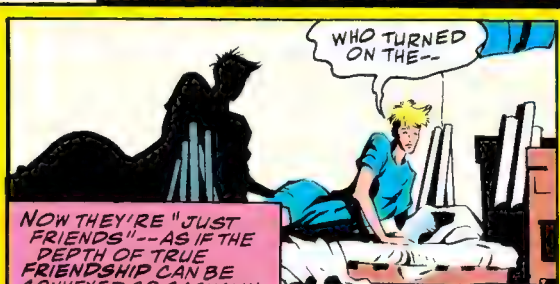
...BUT THAT WAS FOR  
ANOTHER TIME, BEFORE  
UNTHINKING WORDS  
MADE FOR IRREPARABLE  
DAMAGE.



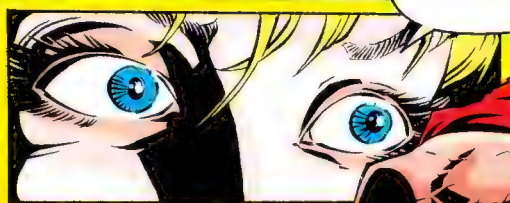
KLIK

WHO TURNED  
ON THE--

NOW THEY'RE "JUST  
FRIENDS"--AS IF THE  
DEPTH OF TRUE  
FRIENDSHIP CAN BE  
CONVEYED SO CASUALLY--



MATT?

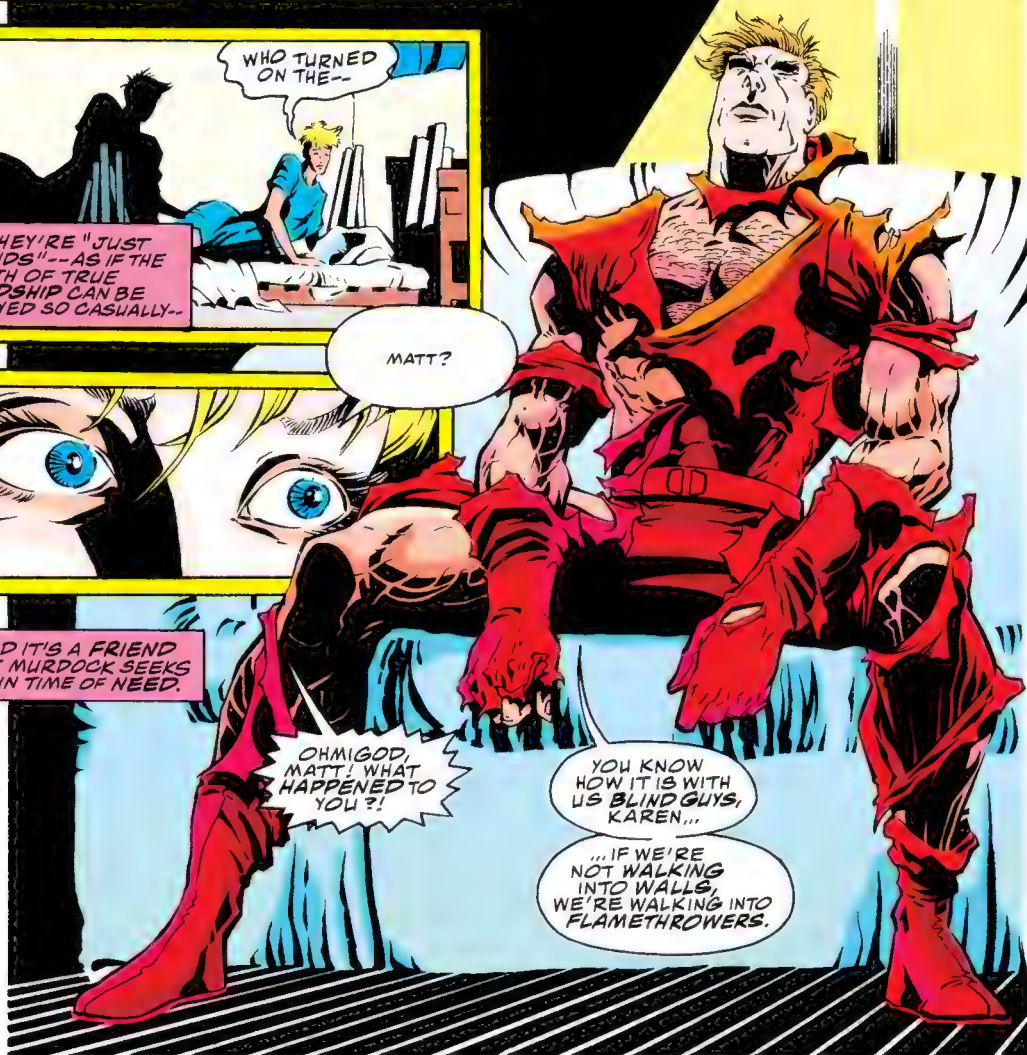


--AND IT'S A FRIEND  
MATT MURDOCK SEEKS  
OUT IN TIME OF NEED.

OHMIGOD,  
MATT! WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
YOU?!

YOU KNOW  
HOW IT IS WITH  
US BLIND GUYS,  
KAREN...

...IF WE'RE  
NOT WALKING  
INTO WALLS,  
WE'RE WALKING INTO  
FLAMETHROWERS.





CUTE.  
TOO BAD I  
CAN'T SAY THE  
SAME FOR THOSE  
THIRD DEGREE  
BURNS.

MELO-  
DRAMATIC  
AREN'T WE?  
THEY'RE  
SECOND, IF  
THAT.



WHAT'S THE  
MATTER, MATT?  
IT'S NOT LIKE  
YOU TO DO SOME-  
THING HALF-  
WAY!

DON'T BE  
SUCH A BABY  
... IT'S JUST  
IODINE!



THANKS,  
KAREN...



DON'T--  
DON'T  
TOUCH--

--NOT  
LIKE  
THAT.



I'M SORRY.  
IT'S JUST-- WHAT  
WE HAD AND HAVE  
ARE TWO DIFFER-  
ENT THINGS.

THIS--THIS  
IS GOING TO TAKE  
MORE THAN  
FIXING A FEW  
TEARS, YOU  
KNOW.



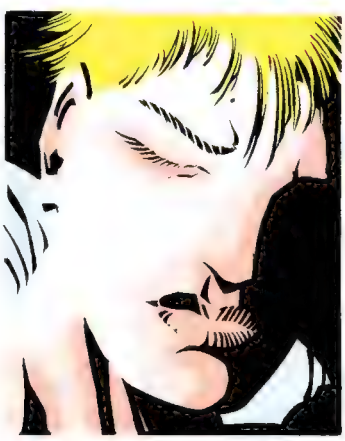
IT'S GOING  
TO TAKE TIME--  
AND YOU'VE GOT  
TO REST.

AND WHILE  
I DO...? THERE'S  
SOMETHING BEHIND  
ALL THIS WORSE  
THAN LUNACY OVER-  
TAKING THE HOME-  
LESS!

CRIPPLER, SABLE,  
AND GOD KNOWS WHAT  
ELSE ARE AFTER THIS  
EDDIE... HOW MANY GET  
HURT WITH THAT BRAND  
OF HARDCASE RUN-  
NING WILD IN THE  
STREETS?



MATT  
MURDOCK,  
YOU ARE SO  
IMPOSSIBLY--



FOLLOW  
MY HANDS...  
HERE'S WHAT  
WE CAN DO TO  
SALVAGE  
THIS MESS...







**LAZY DAYZ MOTEL.**

**BOROUGH OF QUEENS.**

IT'S ONE WAY THE CITY'S GOT OF TAKIN' THE "STREET" OUTTA "STREET PEOPLE."



ROOM HERE GOES FOR 20 DOLLARS A DAY... CITY PAYS \$2250 A MONTH. CLEVER, HUH?

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK ... MAKES ME GLAD I GOT NOTHIN' TO PAY.

BETTER WATCH YOURSELF, RED. KEEP LOOKIN' LIKE THAT, CITY'LL BE PUTTIN' YOU UP NEXT!

THAT BAD, JESS?

I'LL TALK TO MY SEAMSTRESS.

MEANTIME, YOU FEEL LIKE TALKING ABOUT EDDIE?



"FEELIN'" SAYS IT, ALRIGHT. THE MAN GETS INSIDE YOUR HEAD --TUNE INTO W.E.S.P. YOU SEE?-- AND GIVES YOU A PIECE OF HIS PAIN.



BUT FORGIVE THAT TWILIGHT ZONE FACT, AND EDDIE'S NO DIFFERENT THAN ANYONE ELSE.

HE JUST WANTS THE HURTIN' TO STOP, DAREDEVIL.



JESSIE'S LOW VOICE OVERLAPS THE ROOM'S AROMA--

--A UNIQUE BLEND OF EVERGREEN AIR FRESHENER AND ROACH POISON--

--BLURRING WITH A STROBING MOTION BEYOND THE DOOR--



-- SIMULTANEOUS  
IMPRESSIONS  
SENDING DAREDEVIL  
INTO SINGLE-MINDED  
ACTION.

YOU SHOULD'VE  
STAYED CLEAR OF  
MY BUSINESS,  
HORNHEAD!

**KRAAM!**

DOWN!

DROP-  
KICKED  
IN TO TELL  
ME THAT  
PER-  
SONALLY?

HOW  
NICE.

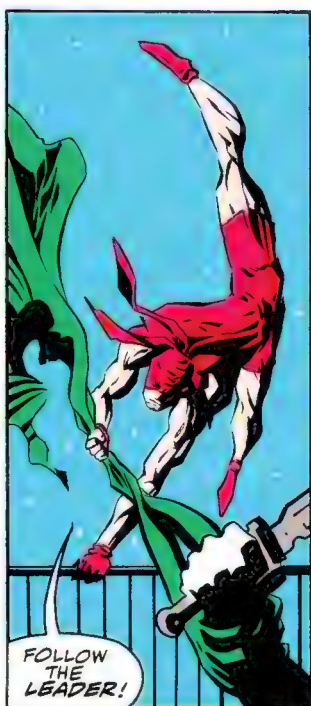
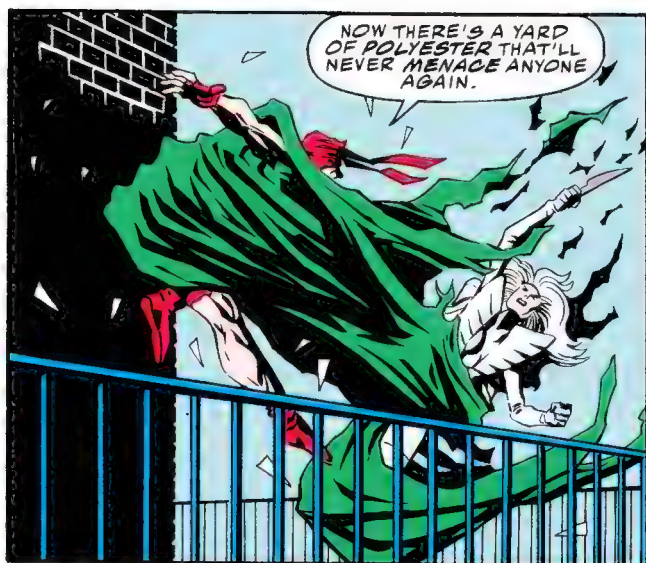
--NO  
ONE CAN  
DODGE  
THAT  
MANY--

TRY  
BEING FLIP  
WITH A CHAI  
DOWN YOUR--

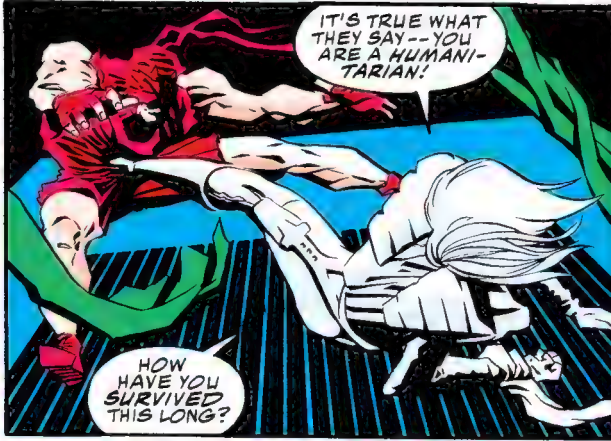
DON'T DELUDE  
YOURSELF, LADY.

TRUTH  
HURTS,  
HUH?

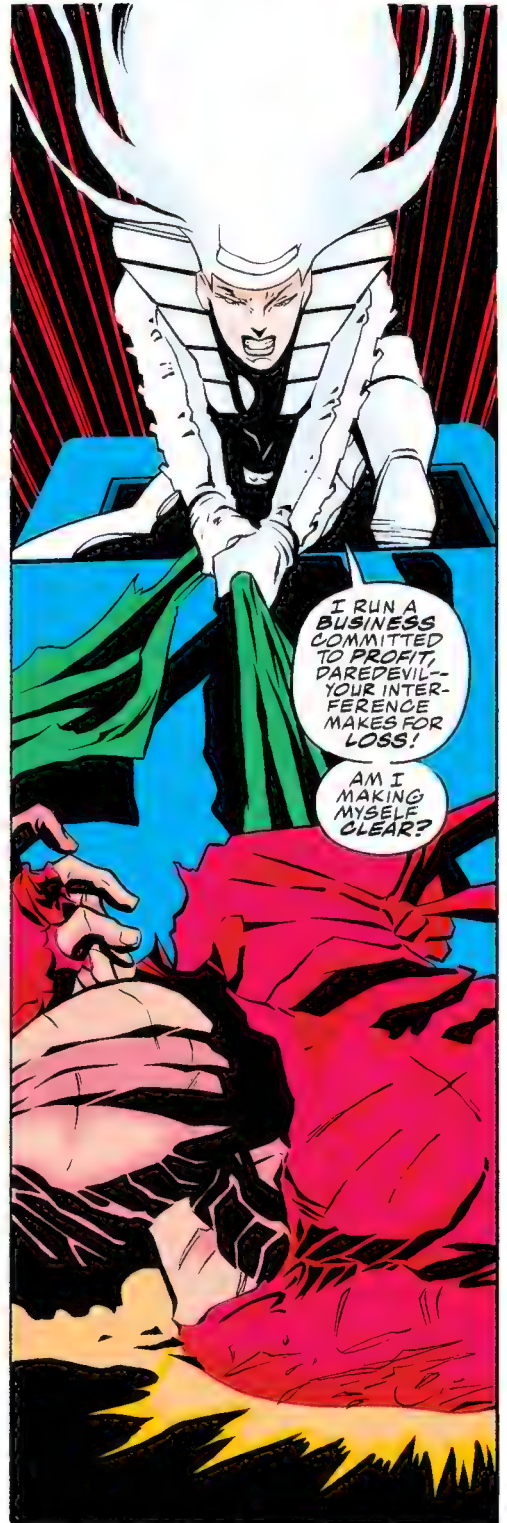




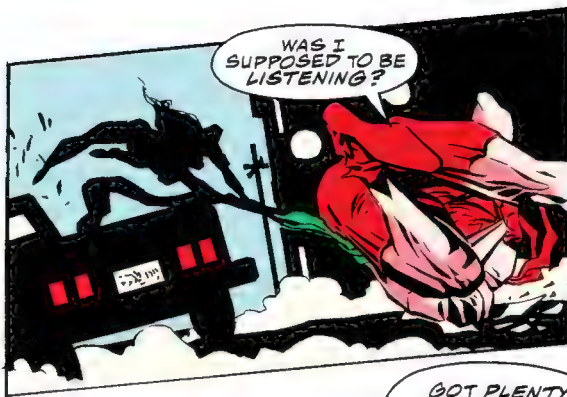




**SKREEE!**







WAS I  
SUPPOSED TO BE  
LISTENING?



GOT A  
GOOD GRIP,  
SABLE.

TOO  
BAD FOR  
YOU.



IF IT'S  
TROUBLE YOU  
WANT, DARE-  
DEVIL...

GOT PLENTY  
ALREADY, THANKS.  
SO DO YOU, IT  
SEEMS.

THINK  
ABOUT THIS.  
MAYBE YOU'RE A  
CAPITALIST  
SAMARITAN,  
FINDING HARRY  
KENKOY'S LONG-  
LOST RELATION,  
EDDIE  
PASSIM.

AND MAYBE  
YOU'RE A CAPI-  
TALIST STOOGES,  
LACKING THE  
KNOWLEDGE THAT  
EDDIE PASSIM IS  
AN ORPHAN,  
AND HAS NO  
RELATIVES.

I DON'T--  
I DON'T HAVE TO  
CONCERN MYSELF  
WITH MY CLIENTS'  
MOTIVES.

HOW ABOUT  
CONCERNING YOUR-  
SELF WITH A CLIENT  
LYING TO YOU, AND  
HOW THAT AFFECTS  
YOUR REP?

"MERCENARY" IS A  
FINE LINE TO WALK, LADY.  
HIRE OUT FOR THE WRONG  
REASONS AND ALL TALK  
OF INTEGRITY BECOMES  
HOLLOW.



I DON'T  
NEED YOU TO  
TELL ME MY  
BUSINESS!

BRING ME  
PROOF, THEN. BUT  
IF YOU'RE WRONG--  
OR IF YOU'RE LYING--  
EDDIE GOES BACK  
ON THE BOOKS.

I'LL  
HAVE THE  
DRAPES DRY-  
CLEANED JUST  
IN CASE.

AND  
I'LL BE  
WAITING...



SARA HARRINGTON'S APARTMENT.

"ALPHABET CITY," NYC.

YOU'RE NO REDFORD IN THAT "SNEAKERS" PICTURE, ARE YOU, HARRINGTON?



YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MATTHEW BRODERICK IN "WARGAMES" EITHER, MR. URICH.

COMPUTER HACKING'S NOT SO MUCH SCIENCE AS ART-- SLIPPING BIT AND BYTE TUMBLERS TO OPEN LOCKS INTO WHERE YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE!



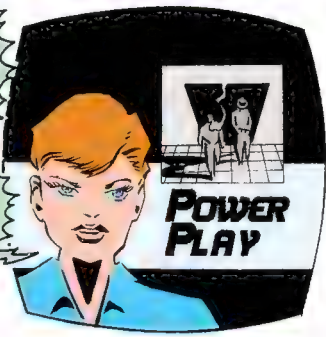
ENOUGH TECHNO-BABBLE, I'VE GOTTA HEAR THIS...

--AS THE STAND-OFF CONTINUES BETWEEN J. JONAH JAMESON, OWNER OF THE DAILY BUGLE, AND CORPORATE RAIDER COLONEL F.T. STRANG.



STRANG'S MANIPULATIONS OF BOTH THE PRESS-MEN'S UNION AND THE TEAMSTERS HAVE CAUSED PROBLEMS FOR THE JAMESON-OWNED BUGLE.

KEY BUGLE PERSONNEL REMAIN LOCKED OUT OF THEIR OFFICES AS THE TWO MEN AT THE TOP CONTINUE TO LOCK HORNS.



I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH I HATE THIS! I WANT MY FILES, SARA, I WANT MY STORIES!

I'M HEADING HOME... LEMME KNOW IF YOU STRIKE GOLD, OR SILICON, WHATEVER.



I'M ON IT!

GOTTA BE A BACK DOOR, GOTTA BE...



YES! WE ARE IN! "REPORTER WANNABE CRACKS SYSTEM"--IT AIN'T THE BIG STORY YET, BUT IT'S A START!

START FILE DOWNLOAD...



ARRRGH! CORRUPTED FILE IN THE TRANSFER--MESSING EVERYTHING TOGETHER!



GONNA HAVE TO TRY AND RECONSTRUCT--

--whoa--



IT AIN'T THE BIG STORY YET...

...BUT IT'S A START...





WEST VILLAGE.  
MATT MURDOCK'S  
APARTMENT.

--IN  
BIOMIMETICS,  
SCIENCE  
IMITATES THE  
MOLECULAR  
STRUCTURES  
NATURE MAN-  
UFACTURES.

OUR GOAL  
AND REWARD  
ARE MAN-MADE  
MATERIALS AS  
DURABLE AND  
FLEXIBLE AS  
THEIR NATURAL  
INSPIRA-  
TIONS.

IMAGINE  
CLOTH WITH THE  
TENSILE STRENGTH  
OF SPIDER-  
WEBBING, ARMOR  
WITH THE LAY-  
ERED FRAME-  
WORK OF  
ABALONE  
SHELL--

--CANAL  
STREET ANTIQUE  
YARD, ON THE  
SOUTH SIDE OF  
CANAL AT  
MOTT--

File Edit View Spec  
Dressing For The  
21st Century:  
The World Of  
Materials  
Research

**BRIING  
BRIING  
KALUKU!**

MATT--IT'S FOGGY!  
GOT YOUR MACHINE--  
WHAT A SURPRISE!  
THAT'S SARCASM,  
PARTNER.

LOOK, I  
APPRECIATE YOU  
TAKING THAT  
PAPERWORK  
HOME TO  
FINISH UP...

...BUT HOLDING IT  
HOSTAGE THERE  
DOESN'T HELP ANY  
MORE THAN YOU  
NOT DOING IT IN  
THE OFFICE!

THAT'S  
SARCASM, TOO! I'M  
A QUICK STUDY!

Y'KNOW, I'D ACCUSE YOU  
OF LEADING SOME KIND--  
SOME KIND OF DOUBLE  
LIFE...

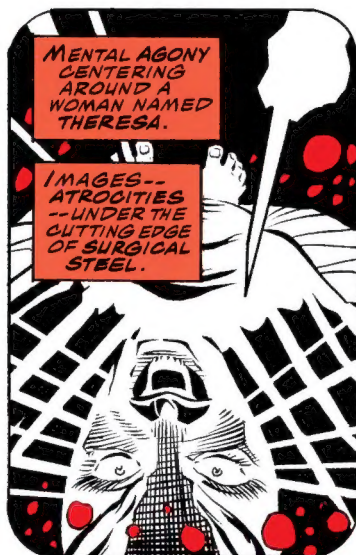
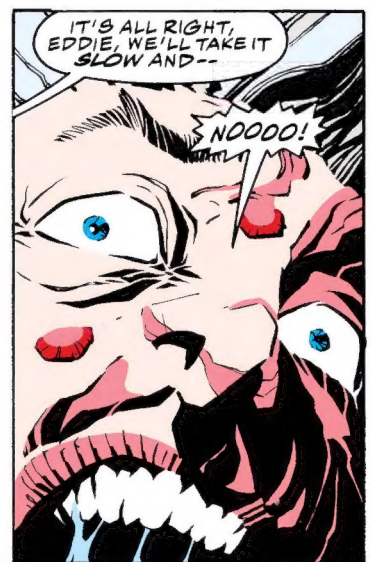
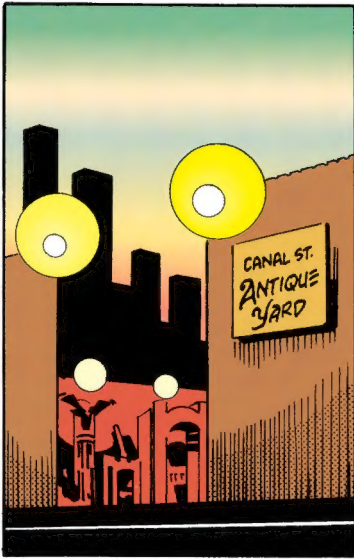
...BUT THE WAY YOU'VE  
BEEN INCOMMUNICADO,  
MATT, IT'S LIKE YOU'VE  
GOT NO LIFE...

GIVE ME A  
BREAK, FOGGY.  
A COUPLE MORE  
DAYS TO WRAP UP  
THIS EDDIE  
BUSINESS--

--THEN  
IT'S ALL  
BACK TO  
STATUS  
QUO...











WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?

THE ANSWER GETS UNLEASHED IN 30: HELLSPAWN--"TRANSGRESSION!"





*Shadowcat*

